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APPENDIX G.

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[RCH: the following is a footnote to the title of this article] "The present paper is one ritual from the large unpublished Russian manuscript on religious beliefs and ceremonies of the Yakuts. All speeches and incantations in the original manuscript are accompanied by Yakut text. The most important works besides those mentioned in the article of Mr. Popov are as follows:

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Y /2 cont./

121 who, in the year 1875, again visited the lower part of the Olenék
[114] and the Lena to complete his observations, while at the same time I took part in the surveying of Siberia, likewise started by the Geographical Society.

Y
[126] Since East Siberia, and especially the part under consideration here, is apt to be a complete terra incognita to the foreign reader to an even greater extent than to the Russian, I shall /3/ also add here for better orientation a brief survey of the history, rather uneventful in itself, of this northernmost region of Russia, with reference to the general map of the territory between the Jenisseí and Jana /Yana/ appended to this volume, which, drawn up according to our data, was reproduced by the Imperial Russian General Staff.

Y
175 The stretches of land of interest to us were discovered by Rus-
648 sian Cossacks in the first half ot the seventeenth century. The
167 city of Mangaséja /Mangazeya/ was founded on the river Tas /Taz/ in Samojeden /Samoyed/ country about the year 1600
[361] under the rule of Czar Boris Fedorovich Godunov. From here the Cossacks soon penetrated to the Jenisseí, founded there in the year 1607 near the mouth of the Turuchán /Turukhan/ River a settlement named after it, to which the entire trade of Mangaséja was later directed, and soon afterwards also discovered the mouths of the Jenisseí and the Pjássida River lying to the east. Spurred on by ambition and also not forgetting their pockets, Cossacks in the following years gradually pushed up the (Lower) Tungúska, emptying into the Jenisseí near Turuchánsk, before them, as Fischer (1) relates, the hunters ("are rovers who band together in

Y
● [113]

1. Johann Eberhard Fischer, Sibirische Geschichte /Siberian History/, St. Petersburg, 1768. 2 vols. The following very characteristic quotations are taken from this work.

order to catch game"). The Lena was reached probably as early as 1620 (even earlier by the hunters) by crossing the watershed, barely 30 versts wide here, from the present village of Podwolótschnaja /Podvoloshnaya/ on the Tunguska and therefore emerging about 50 versts below the present Kirensk.

T
648 This was not accomplished without battle with the resident
721 tribes. Fischer tells about a band /4/ of 189 hunters: "Never-
175 theless they were occasionally sharply rapped on the knuckles

/252 cont./

241 the interest of his superior, the community elder, Dmítrij Danílow, who took part in cultivating the field the next year. 241 They obtained the always good yield of a ten-fold harvest, but 256 mills were completely lacking. They had to content themselves 177 with wooden mortars and obtained only a kind of coarse groats which the Jakuten /Yakut/ did not care for at all. Although soon afterward, with the help of a merchant from Oljókminsk/Olekminsk/, better farm implements, which were immediately copied by the excellent Jakut blacksmiths, and hand mills were obtained, a Russian oven was built, and the first bread grown on the land was baked, it was still a very long time before the Jakuten -- originally a herding people -- became accustomed to agriculture. They regarded it as a sin, and when their elder, Danílow, tried to force them to do it, for he obtained better and better results in the following years by making the land arable for sowing during the year before, the dispute broke out into the open. Bolkáschin and Danílow were suspended as a result of the constant denunciations of their subordinates, and Bolkáschin moved away entirely to Jakutsk, while Danílow finally succeeded in convincing the higher authorities of the value of his efforts and was reinstated in office. Nevertheless, despite his /253/ work in the fields, carried out on a larger scale every year, the Jakuten continued to be quite indifferent to it.

241 Even up to the most recent times the agriculture of the 113 Jakuten /Yakut/ leaves much to be desired, for I have before me a printed publication of the Statistical Committee in Jakutsk for the year 1872, entitled: "Notes on Agriculture by the Jakutsk Merchant Peter Maksímowitsch Leóntjew," whose introductory words in particular are very characteristic, and I shall therefore give them here in translation:

"Almost half a century ago the Jakuten began to engage in agriculture, but even now they still sow much less grain than they actually could. The reason is not so much that they have no interest in agriculture, but rather ignorance or a certain Asiatic stubbornness that compels them not to imitate the example of the Russians unconditionally, but rather to act according to

/253 cont./

241 their own ideas, whereby they often let themselves be guided only
013 by chance. But this stubbornness either destroys the fruits of their labor completely or at least induces many to limit their sowing to such an extent that the harvest is not even sufficient for their own households -- as a result of this, they often suffer great hardship and then nourish themselves with only milk and spruce bark."

241 Leontjew himself has engaged in agriculture since the year 1836, and therefore the rules given by him, which refer to the choice of the land, the grains for sowing, the agricultural implements, and the preparation of the ground, are certainly of great importance. He particularly recommends sowing as early as possible, as soon as the ground prepared the year before has merely thawed on the surface, whereas the Jakuten /Yakut/ entertain the prejudice of not sowing before May 9. /254/ The following data with regard to this were given to me by a farmer there:

	Sowing:	Ripening:
Oats, Millet	April 12-13	The first days of August
Summer rye	April 27-28	August 10
Barley, Wheat	the first days of May	July 15
Hemp	May 3	The first days of August
Buckwheat, Peas	May 7-8	The first days of August

In this connection in the vicinity of Jakutsk in the years 1874 and 1875 the twentieth grain of the wheat, the eightieth one of the millet, and the tenth one of all the other field crops were harvested.

[p. 904]

The Yakuts

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Y 484 /38 cont./
T 439 whom he traveled for a time, had even swum down the Bureja 26 years earlier to 60 versts above its mouth, where he came upon a Chinese guard (2). Just as the Yakut follow the Russian

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2. Reise, etc., Vol. IV, p. 166, note 1. On the other hand, the report of the escape of 6,000 Yakut over the Russian border into the Amur region, first made known and elaborated by Billings, and later repeated by many others (Sauer, Capt. Jos. Billings' Geogr.-astronom. Reise nach den nördl. Gegend. Russlands zur Unters. der Münd. des Kowima-Flusses /Capt. Jos. Billings' Geographical-Astronomical Expedition to the Northern Regions of Russia to Investigate the Mouth of the Kowima River/, etc., transl. from the English, Berlin, 1802, pp. 367, 368), originated, according to Middendorff, simply because of confusion (Sauer had heard this story in the house of the ispravnik, Hornofskij, from the assessors, Ewers and Kyschkin), and such a mass crossing of the Yakut into Chinese territory never took place (see his Reise, etc., Vol. IV, p. 169). I must agree completely, for such a number of immigrants from such a vigorous, tough, and enterprising people as the Yakut would have attracted attention in the Amur region in any case, whereas in reality aside from the isolated traders, there were no traces of any Yakut there.

T 439 Tungus, so, on the other hand, do the Daur follow the Chinese Birar and Manegir. With the same interest in trade as the former,

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along this river (1). There, however, they in turn encountered

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1. According to Gmelin (Reise durch Sibirien, von dem Jahr 1733 bis 1743 /Journey Through Siberia from 1733 to 1743/, Göttingen, 1751, Vol. II, pp. 344, 345), even in his time there was among the Yakut an old story about the pressure that they had suffered from the Buryat, which had caused them to move down the Lena Valley. Cf. also Müller, Samml. Russ. Gesch. /Collection on Russian History/, Vol. VI, 1761, p. 147; Fischer, Sibir. Gesch. /Siberian History/, St. Petersb., 1768, Vol. I, pp. 108, 109; Schlözer /Schlötzer/, Allgem. Nord. Gesch. /General History of the Northland/, Halle, 1771, p. 416; Stepanov", Eniseisk. gub. /Yenisei Province/, St. Petersburg, 1835, Part II, p. 45; Ritter, Asien, Vol. II, p. 5; Middendorff, Reise in den äuss. Norden und Osten Sibir. /A Journey in the Extreme North and East of Siberia/, Vol. IV, pp. 1542, 1545. Even the name "Baikal" is said to be of Yakut origin and to mean something like "abundant waters" (cf. Laxmann, Sibirische Briefe /Letters from Siberia/, ed. by Schlözer, Göttingen, 1769, p. 37, note).

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many Tungusic tribes who put up a stubborn resistance against them and, as it still survived vigorously in the last century in their traditions, only retreated after many bloody battles (2).

2. Gmelin, op. cit., p. 345; Müller,